MEMO

DATE:

May 5, 2005

TO:

Community, Economic & Human Development Committee (CEHD)

FROM:

Mark Butala, Senior Regional Planner, 213-236-1945, butala@scag.ca.gov

SUBJECT:

Compass 2% Strategy Suite of Services Technical Training Sessions Schedule

SUMMARY:

The Compass Team has been developing a series of tools and resources to assist local governments and other interested parties in their planning and redevelopment efforts. This "Suite of Services" will be showcased at the UCLA Extension Smart Growth Conference on May 18. Following the Conference, the Compass Team will offer three training sessions for local government technical staff to become proficient on the use of each of the resources. The tentative schedule is attached. An updated schedule will be provided as the dates and venues are finalized.





The Southern California Association of Governments, through the Compass 2% Strategy, invites you to participate in a series of training sessions focused on practical computer-assisted applications for helping communities foster positive change.

- Learn the latest techniques for estimating redevelopment potential in your community.
- Make your ideas catch the imagination of your audience through the aid of powerful visual and mapping tools.

The sessions are free of charge to planning practitioners from around the region. Go to http://www.socalcompass.org/ and register for this important event.

Sessions

Friday June 3rd, 2005 Thursday June 16th, 2005 Friday June 17th, 2005 (dates and places yet to be confirmed)

Programs

A Crash Course on the Redevelopment Potential software Place3s

Estimating the potential for redevelopment is an area which has little established planning methodology. Using the Place3s software, a GIS-based application which is public domain and easily downloadable via SCAG's website, communities can gauge the financial feasibility of zoning or planning scheme, using property values, market conditions, and the amount of development permitted by zoning.

In addition to the Place3s model, the training will include a pro forma as an Excel application allowing parcel-by-parcel analysis of variables such as parking requirements, floor area ratios, allowed uses, building setbacks, height limits, type of parking required, maximum household and employment density, as well as basic construction costs and local market conditions.

Recommended Pre-requisite: Intermediate to advanced knowledge of ESRI's ArcView 3.2 software, beginning level Excel and knowledge of basic zoning and land use concepts



Visualize your Community: A home-based approach to Photorealistic Visualizations

If you've ever been mesmerized by before-and-after images showing you the possibilities of what could be, you'll understand the power of persuasions behind Photorealistic Visualizations. Make the most of your planning concepts by learning the fundamentals of how to use this powerful graphic tool.

- Learn how to take pictures that can be used for visualizations
- Learn how to cut and paste images for manipulation
- Learn how to make different images blend into a coherent story

Recommended Pre-requisite: Beginning experience with Adobe Photoshop software and Windows data management

The World at Your Fingertips: Keyhole^(TM) in Planning Applications

If a picture is worth thousand words, compound your results with the latest mapping application from the Keyhole^(TM) Corporation. This software allows you to travel around the world through the click of your computer mouse. Learn how to create videos and use them your everyday planning applications to achieve unprecedented connection with your audience.

- Learn the basics of fly-throughs
- Learn how to time and sequence your flight simulations to tell a story
- Learn how to integrate your land use maps as part of the flight to create powerful images

Recommended Pre-requisite: Beginning experience with Internet use and data management

Supporting Materials

All three programs include reading materials with basic instructions on how to use the software using a step-by-step approach that closely follows the lessons with the aid of graphs, charts, pictures, and easy to comprehend instructions.